

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03097 01 OF 02 021048Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /064 W

-----021102Z 034678 /21

P R 020611Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1846

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 AMMAN 3097

FOR NEA/ARN

DEPT PASS AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, JO, IS,US

SUBJECT: MAQARIN DAM--DRAFT MEMORANDUM

REF: AMMAN 3096

1. BEGIN TEXT: THE UNITED STATES HAS OFFERED ITS GOOD OFFICES TO ISRAEL AND JORDAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED MAQARIN DAM-YARMOUK RIVER PROJECT.

2. THE UNITED STATES UNDERSTANDS THAT ISRAEL AND JORDAN HAVE ACCEPTED THE FOLLOWING:

(A) WATER FOR THE YARMOUK (ADASIYE) TRIANGLE-- THE PRINCIPLE OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF YARMOUK RIVER WATER TO THE TRIANGLE SHOULD BE RESPECTED AND STRUCTURES FOR WATER STORAGE AND CONVEYANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CURRENT PROJECT SHOULD PROVIDE FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION. SPECIFICALLY, 25 MILLION CUBIC METERS (MCM) WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 AMMAN 03097 01 OF 02 021048Z

YARMOUK RIVER TO THE TRIANGLE. AFTER THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAQARIN DAM, RELEASES FROM THE DAM ITSELF WILL MAKE POSSIBLE THE PROVISION OF 25 MCM TO THE TRIANGLE INCLUDING THE 2.3 CUBIC METERS PER SECOND (CMS) FOR USE DURING THE APPROXIMATE FOUR MONTHS OF THE DRY, LOW FLOW PERIOD.  
DURING PERIODS OF DROUGHT (WHEN WATER AVAILABLE

FOR RELEASE FALLS BELOW THE AMOUNT REQUIRED AT THE DIVERSION WEIR (SEE (B) BELOW) TO MEET THE ALLOCATION OF THE TRIANGLE AND NEEDS THE EAST GHOR MAIN CANAL) THE WATER DEFICIT WILL BE SHARED PROPORTIONATELY ON THE BASIS WHICH THE IRRIGATED LAND IN THE YARMOUK TRIANGLE WILL BEAR TO THE IRRIGATED LAND IN THE AREAS SERVED BY THE EAST GHOR MAIN CANAL.

FLOWS PASSING THE DIVERSION WEIR AND NOT ALLOCATED TO THE TRIANGLE (RESIDUAL FLOWS) ARE TO BE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNSTREAM USE. THE USE OF SUCH RESIDUAL FLOWS WILL NOT BE THE BASIS FOR A FUTURE CLAIM FOR THE ALLOCATION OF SUCH WATER.

(B) DIVERSION WEIR AT ADAYIYE-EAST GHOR MAIN CANAL INTAKE--A WEIR WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE VICINITY OF THE EAST GHOR MAIN CANAL INTAKE ON THE YARMOUK RIVER TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL AND REGULATION OF WATER INTO THE CANAL AND INTO THE YARMOUK TRIANGLE. JORDAN WILL BUILD THE WEIR AT ITS EXPENSE WITHOUT HINDRANCE AND WITH ACCESS PERMITTED TO BOTH BANKS OF THE YARMOUK AS NECESSARY FOR CONSTRUCTION. ISRAEL WILL REVIEW THE ENGINEERING DESIGNS FOR THE WEIR AND THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONAL PLANS FOR THE REGULATION AND FLOW OF YARMOUK WATERS (PREPARED ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES SET FORTH IN PARA (A) ABOVE). THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE GOOD OFFICES TO ISRAEL AND JORDAN IN THIS REGARD.

(C) THE WEST BANK--THE UNITED STATES UNDERSTANDS THAT JORDAN AND ISRAEL ACCEPT THE FACT THAT  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 AMMAN 03097 01 OF 02 021048Z

THE WEST BANK HAS NEEDS FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER FROM THE JORDAN RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES. JORDAN AND ISRAEL ALSO ACCEPT THE NEED TO REVIEW WEST BANK (WEST GHOR) AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL, WATER NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FUTURE, RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE THOSE REQUIREMENTS, AND THE POSSIBLE MEANS OF CONVEYANCE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT BOTH ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE OF MAKING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03097 02 OF 02 021054Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /064 W

-----021102Z 034733 /12

P R 020611Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1847

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 AMMAN 3097

THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND FULLEST UTILIZATION OF  
TOTAL WATER RESOURCES. JORDAN WILL CONTRACT FOR  
SUCH A STUDY AND PROVIDE TO ISRAEL THE SCOPE OF WORK  
FOR REVIEW AS WELL AS THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY. JORDAN WILL  
EXPLORE FURTHER THE AVAILABILITY OF GROUND WATER RESOURCES  
IN THE EAST GHOR AREA IN ORDER TO DETERMINE HOW THESE RESOURCES  
CAN BE CHanneled TO MOST EFFECTIVE USE.

(D) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS--QUESTIONS OF  
ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS, OF  
WATER QUALITY, AND THE PALESTINE ELECTRIC POWER  
CORPORATION CONCESSION, AS THESE MAY BE AFFECTED  
BY THE PROJECT, WERE DISCUSSED. WITH REGARD TO  
ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT, THE UNITED STATES ADVISED  
ISRAEL AND JORDAN THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO REVIEW  
THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT IN CONNECTION WITH ITS  
PROPOSED SUPPORT FOR THE MAQARIN DAM, INCLUDING  
SUCH ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS AS THE EFFECT OF THE  
PROJECT ON THE JORDAN RIVER AND THE DEAD SEA, AND  
BOTH WILL COOPERATE IN THE STUDY AND PROVIDE NECESSARY DATA.  
THE WATER QUALITY QUESTION WAS REVIEWED AND IT WAS  
CONCLUDED THAT THE PROJECT WOULD NOT ADVERSELY CHANGE  
THE QUALITY OF WATER AVAILABLE TO DOWNSTREAM USERS.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 AMMAN 03097 02 OF 02 021054Z

ISRAEL AND JORDAN DO NOT CONSIDER THE  
ISSUE OF THE PALESTINE ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION  
CONCESSION AN IMPEDIMENT TO PROCEEDING WITH THE  
MAQARIN DAM AND ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER ITS  
RESOLUTION AT AN APPROPRIATE POINT IN THE FUTURE.  
END TEXT.

3. THE ABOVE TEXT HAS BEEN PREPARED WITH THE  
FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND: AFTER EXTENSIVE  
DISCUSSIONS WITH BOTH PARTIES, THE MEMORANDUM

ATTEMPTS TO RECORD, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE GOING AHEAD WITH THE PROJECT, BOTH SIDES' COMMON VIEWS ON HOW ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THEM SHOULD BE RESOLVED. WE BELIEVE SUCH UNDERSTANDINGS ARE NECESSARY BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER WITH A LARGE U.S. COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT. WE ALSO BELIEVE THE TIME IS RIPE NOW TO SET DOWN OUR UNDERSTANDINGS OF THE VIEWS OF BOTH PARTIES. IN ORDER TO TAKE CAREFUL ACCOUNT OF THE DELICATE POLITICAL SITUATION WHICH PREVAILS IN THE AREA, THE ABOVE MEMORANDUM HAS BEEN PREPARED AS A U.S. STATEMENT OF ITS UNDERSTANDINGS RATHER THAN ANY KIND OF BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES THEMSELVES (ISRAEL AND JORDAN) OR BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ANY ONE OR BOTH OF THE PARTIES. AFTER CAREFUL REVIEW WE DEEM IT ESSENTIAL TO AVOID THE INTRODUCTION OF ANY SENSE OF A BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT INTO THE PROCEEDINGS IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE ACCEPTANCE OF ARRANGEMENTS, PARTICULARLY ON THE ARAB SIDE.

4. SY TAUBENBLATT AND NAT HOWELL PARTICIPATED IN THE DISCUSSIONS LEADING UP TO THE PREPARATION OF THE FINAL DRAFT AND ARE THOROUGHLY CONVERSANT WITH THE DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE CHOICE OF SPECIFIC LANGUAGE IN EACH CASE.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 AMMAN 03097 02 OF 02 021054Z

TAUBENBLATT RETURNS TO WASHINGTON ON JUNE 8 AND HOWELL ON JUNE 14.  
PICKERING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENT DRAFT, DAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977AMMAN03097  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770196-0683  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** AMMAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197706100/aaaadjgm.tel  
**Line Count:** 205  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 13cb0773-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 AMMAN 3096  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1995301  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MAQARIN DAM--DRAFT MEMORANDUM  
**TAGS:** EAID, JO, IS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/13cb0773-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009